

Allenwood

Wimbledon Park

S.W.

4872

February 28th 1892

My dearest Pippa, I hope you
are better; in fact quite
well, well enough to come on
Tuesday. I think you might
come & see your poor destitute
sister. Considering the eyes it
is since I saw you last I
think ~~if~~ you might strive
to drag Dorothy here. I am
sure you will come after
that eloquent appeal.

I am afraid my costume will

not be a great success. I
have am doing something with
Ethel Chamberlain.

On Wednesday, Rudolphine
Baerff, Ovidia & I went off
to the City of London Schools
near Blackfriars for our Pre-
liminary. We arrived about
 $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour too soon & so we
had to wait in a horrid
sort of dining-room where
they were laying out tea
(at 2 o'clock!). When we went
up into the hall we found
there a surging mob. With
some difficulty we got up-
stairs and at last we came

to a room with glass doors
in front of which a man
was shouting "Candidates
only please step this way."
So we parted from Miss Boyce
& got into the room. It was
very large & high with rows
of desks all along. Each
desk was originally intended
for two but only one person
sat there in our Exam. Each
person was provided with
music paper, blotting paper,
plain paper & a pen. Then a
little white man got up &
said "Ladies & gentlemen, I
am the president of the Royal
College of Music." He then pro-

ceeded to pat himself & us
on the back and at last he
sat down. Then the presi-
dent of the Royal Academy
of Music got up and told
us that it might console
us to know that ~~there~~ were
at that hour 1000 other
people suffering from the
same nervous excitement as
ourselves; "but" said he "my
advice to you is take it easy
& attend to your work & it
will all come right." He
was Scotch I think, at any
rate his name is Mackenzie.
Then an envelope was brought in
the seal was solemnly broken
& the examination papers were

taken out. I felt perfectly ill when I saw the first question "What is the effect of 2 dots placed after a note." However after reading the rest of the paper I felt better. It was almost exactly like the paper they set last year & which they had published in their Syllabus. So it was very nice; I did it all except one chord. I had promised ^{Miss Boyce} to copy out the questions and my answers into the music paper because our answers had to be on the actual paper with the questions. At the end of the paper - I mean when I had

finished I handed my paper
to one of the females who
was riding about & I asked
her if I might have ~~another~~
a copy to take home (because
I wanted one to send to Mama)
But she said "Oh no you
mustn't; that's why we collect
all the rough copies." And
there was I with my copy
safely stowed away in my
pocket! When I went out &
downstairs I found Miss Boyce
I told her the tale of the female
but however she said Oh bother
the regulations let's see the
paper. So of course I showed
it her.

They allowed us 3 hours from
2.45 to 6.45. I came out after
about 2 hrs but the other
two stopped till the very
last minute; I think they
were the last in the room.
We hope to hear the result in
about a week or 10 days.

I hope Mama is better, I heard
from Dorothy that she had
been in London.

Hoping & praying that you will
come to the Bal Masque!

I remain
yr loving

Pernie